



# RAVENSTHORPE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Respectful, Proud, Aspirational

October Newsletter 22.10.2025



## Message from Mrs. Ward

---

*Dear Families,*

*As we reach the end of a very busy first half term, I want to thank you for your continued support. The children have settled well into the new school year and we've enjoyed a great start together.*

*We've packed a lot into these first few weeks — from our Family Olympics to Parent Cafés, a SEND coffee morning, and events for Mental Health Day, Global Goals Day, Black History Month and Neurodiversity Week. It's been lovely to see so many of you joining us and getting involved in school life.*

### ***Exciting News – SwimEd Installation***

*We are thrilled to share that we're having an exciting new installation after half term – SwimEd, a specialist pop-up swimming pool that allows our pupils to take part in a six-week intensive swimming programme.*

*Learning to swim is a vital life skill, and we're proud to be the first school in Peterborough to use this innovative resource. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils will take part first, and we hope to extend this in future years.*

### ***Attendance Matters***

*Thank you to everyone who continues to support good attendance. Regular attendance is key to every child's progress and helps them to feel confident and connected in school. Our target is 96%. We are currently 95.5%. The RPA team are keen to support families.*

*We're continuing our Class Attendance Competition – the class with the highest attendance each half term will enjoy a pizza treat. Let's see who takes the prize this time!*

### ***Arbor – Communication Update***

*Thank you for your patience as we've been ironing out a few small glitches with Arbor. Email communication should now be working more smoothly. If you experience any further issues, please let the school office know so we can help.*

### ***Parking at Drop-Off and Pick-Up***

*We've received a few complaints from local residents about parking during drop-off and pick-up times. Please park considerately and safely to help keep our community happy and our children safe. Thank you for your cooperation.*

### ***New Reception Intake – September 2026***

*If your child is due to start school in September 2026, we are holding our New Intake Meetings on Wednesday 12th November at 2pm and 5pm.*

*This is a great opportunity to meet the team, see our classrooms in action and learn more about life at Ravensthorpe.*

### ***OPAL Play at Lunchtimes***

*We're excited to be working towards introducing OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) at lunchtimes. This will make our playtimes more active, creative and fun for all pupils.*

*We'll be collecting donations of loose parts and play items soon – things like small world toys, crates, buckets, dressing-up items and clean offcuts of fabric. More details will follow after half term.*

*Wishing all our families a lovely, restful half term break. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school, ready for another busy and exciting half term ahead.*

*Warm regards,*

*Mrs Ward*

Headteacher

---

## Important Dates

---

***Thursday 23rd October - Spooky Menu***

***Friday 24th October - Staff training day - School Closed to children***

***Monday 27th October -Friday 31st October - Half term***

***Monday 3rd November - Staff training day - School closed to children***

***Tuesday 4th November - Individual school photos***

***Wednesday 5th November - Bonfire Menu***

***- Festival of Lights Disco***

***Thursday 13th November - Bulb Planting Event***

***Thursday 27th November - Year 3 Parent Cafe 2:30pm-3pm***

***Thursday 11th December - Festive Disco***

---

## RAVENSTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Term Dates 2025 - 2026

AUTUMN TERM 2025		
PROFESSIONAL DAYS 1,2 & 3	Monday 1st September 2025	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025
	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	
PLANNING DAYS 1&2 (School closed)	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Term 1	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2025	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025
Half term/ School closed	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
Term 2	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
SPRING TERM 2026		
PROFESSIONAL DAY 4 & PLANNING DAY 3	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
Term 3	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Half term/ School closed	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Term 4	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
SUMMER TERM 2026		
May Bank Holiday	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	
Term 5	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2026
Half term/ school closed	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Term 6	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

### PROFESSIONAL DAYS

- 1 disaggregated day (6 hours) spread across the year (3 x 2-hour CPD sessions until 6pm)
- These dates could be subject to some changes. Any changes will be posted on the School Website.
- PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL CLOSES AT normal time on the last day of each half term and 1:15pm at the end of term
  - Holidays will not be ~~authorised~~ during term time.
  - Routine dental and optician appointments should be made outside of school hours or during school holidays.
  - If your child needs to attend an emergency dental, optician appointment or hospital. appointment during school hours, the school office must be notified and a record of this made on the attendance file.
  - If your child is absent, you must notify the school office by 9.15am on each day of absence.





# Spooky Lunch

THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER

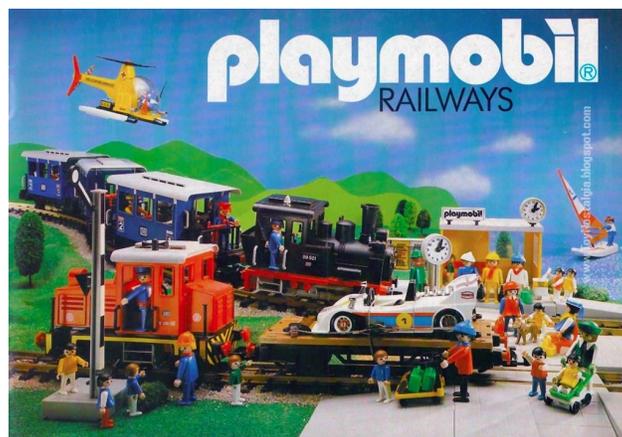
Blue : Spooky Chicken Pizza  
Yellow: Chilling Cheese Pizza

Veg: Ghostly Beans and  
Scary Sweetcorn

Dessert: Selection of  
creepy treats

*There will be no green option  
All dietary requirements will be catered for*

CAN YOU HELP? ARE YOU HAVING A CLEAR OUT? DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS?





## **We want to set up some small world play activities for children at lunchtimes**

**Small world play** is a fantastic way for children to explore, imagine, and learn through miniature figures and settings. These resources help develop language, social skills, and creativity across all ages in our school.

### **What are we looking for?**

Examples include (but aren't limited to):

- **Vehicles:** Cars, trains, planes, boats, emergency vehicles, construction vehicles
- **Animals:** Farm animals, zoo animals, dinosaurs, sea creatures, insects
- **People:** Figurines of families, community helpers (doctors, firefighters), different professions
- **Buildings & Structures:** Toy houses, barns, castles, garages, bridges, fences
- **Natural Elements:** Trees, rocks, pretend grass, small play mats

If you have any spare items at home—or know someone who does—that are in good condition and safe for children, we'd be so grateful for your donations.

## Notices

---

### ***HAF Club***

*JDS HAF will run again in December for the Christmas holidays, it will take place on Friday 19th, Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd, please keep your eyes peeled for the relevant information during the first week back after half term.*

### ***Stay and Play***

Stay and play group for toddlers and pre-schoolers, Thursday 6th November at 9:30am. To book a place, scan the QR code on the poster.

# TODDLER & PRE-SCHOOL STAY AND PLAY GROUP

**FREE!**  
**COME AND JOIN US ON**  
**THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER '25**  
**9.30AM-10.30AM**

**RAVENSTHORPE PRIMARY ACADEMY**  
Brigstock Court  
Ravensthorpe  
PE3 7NB

**CREATE A SAFE SPACE**  
A safe space for you to bring your child to play and meet new people from your local area. Build friendships and positive interactions for your child.

**WHAT TO EXPECT...**

- Nursery Rhymes
- Craft activities
- drink and a natter
- expert advice
- story time

**WHAT TO EXPECT...**  
All stay and play sessions will be run by qualified early years teachers. Expect fun, a relaxed atmosphere and an opportunity to get advice on local support groups, early help and school admissions. Tea, coffee, juice and biscuits will be free for all. Babies welcome also.



## Football Fixture at Thorpe Primary Academy



The tournament at **Thorpe Primary Academy on Monday 13th October** was packed with energy, teamwork, and great sportsmanship. All teams played with enthusiasm, making for an exciting day of football.

**RPA** played exceptionally well — unbeaten, confident, and well-organised from start to finish. With sharp passing, solid defending, and plenty of team spirit, they showed exactly what can be achieved through teamwork and determination.

It was a fantastic day all round, full of smiles, effort, and friendly competition — the perfect example of football played in the right spirit!

The results were as follows:

Thorpe 0-1 Watergall

**Ravensthorpe** 3-0 Longthorpe

NOVA 0-0 Watergall

**Ravensthorpe 2-0 Thorpe**

Thorpe 0-2 NOVA

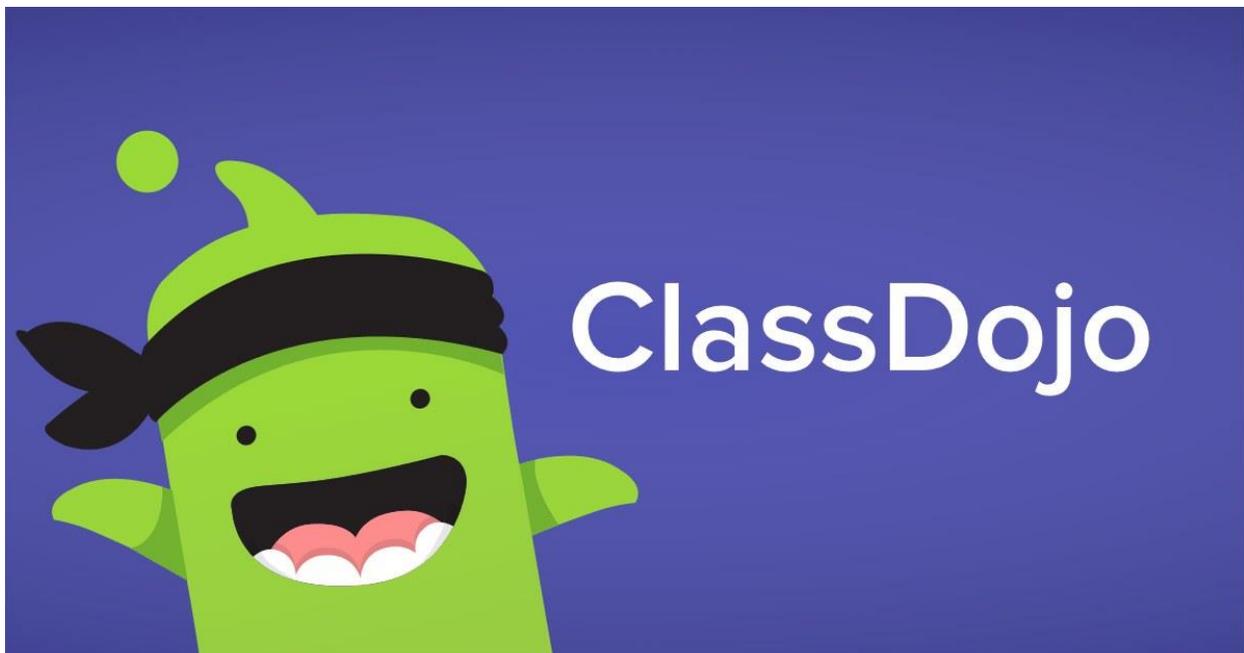
Longthorpe 0-2 Watergall

NOVA 5-0 Longthorpe

Watergall 0-0 **Ravensthorpe**

**A big well done to everyone who took part!**

Class Dojo



**Please ensure you are signed up to ClassDojo**, as we will be using this platform to share important information with parents going forward.

**QR codes and sign-up links have been sent out recently** to help you join easily.

If you need to send a message to a member of staff, **please do not use ClassDojo**. Instead:

- Use **Seesaw** to contact your child's class teacher directly, or

- **Email the school office** at [parents@RPA.keystrust.org](mailto:parents@RPA.keystrust.org).

Thank you for your cooperation!